



Union Internationale des Avocats
International Association of Lawyers
Unión Internacional de Abogados

« Rassembler les avocats du monde • Bringing Together the World's Lawyers • Reunir a los abogados del mundo »

Paris, October 12, 2017

UIA launches international campaign demanding the release of Emirati Lawyer Dr. Mohammed al-Roken

The International Association of Lawyers demands the release of human rights lawyer Mohammed al-Roken by the United Arab Emirates authorities in an advocacy campaign launched early October 2017.

The UIA encourages its members and the international legal community as a whole to put pressure on the UAE government by sending letters denouncing the injustice of the detention of Mohammed al-Roken.

UIA's President, Laurence Bory, said *"no human rights advocate should be detained or imprisoned for the peaceful exercise of his or her rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association"* and added that *"the detention of Mohammed al-Roken is incompatible with the United Arab Emirates' responsibilities and commitments as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council."*

Mohammed al-Roken was arrested on the 17 July in 2012 during a series of mass arrests of human rights activists, judges, intellectuals, and student community leaders. These arrests followed a petition that called for reforms to bring greater democratization to the UAE.

On 2 July, 2013, after the scandalous trial of 94 Emiratis, also known as UAE94, Mohammed al-Roken was sentenced to 10 years in prison, including three on probation and a prohibition from practicing, for creating an organization that allegedly aimed at overthrowing the UAE government.

Mohammed al-Roken was subjected to torture, deprived of the right to effective defense and independent observers were denied access to his hearings.

Well-known for his commitment to human rights, Mohammed al-Roken was awarded the International Human Rights Prize Ludovic Trarieux in May 2017.

You can find and download the letter template to address to the Emirati authorities in the following link: <http://www.uianet.org/en/content/join-campaign-obtain-immediate-and-unconditional-r>

More about the UIA

The Union Internationale des Avocats (International Association of Lawyers - UIA) was founded in 1927. It is the oldest worldwide legal association and brings together around two million lawyers through its individual members and collective members (bars, federations, and associations) from more than 110 countries.

The main aims of the UIA are to promote the fundamental principles of the legal profession; to contribute to the establishment of an international legal order based on the principle of justice between nations, through law and in the cause of peace; and, to defend lawyers and their clients. .

For more information go to: www.uianet.org - uiacentre@uianet.org

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